National Organization – 1915

NATIONAL EQUAL RIGHTS CONVENTION MONDAY NIGHT.

Reported by Caesar A. A. P. Taylor

(American Journal, Tri-Weekly, Phila., Pa., Dec. 16, 1915

Allen A. M. E. church, corner Seventeenth and Bainbridge streets, was comfortably seated on Monday night with an earnest and appreciative audience, though the weather was disagreeably stormy, snow falling all day. The occasion was the National Equal Rights Convention, which was welcomed to the church by the Rev. W. Spencer Carpenter, the able pastor, in an address forceful and appropriate. Hon. Clinton Rogers Woodruff was to deliver the address of welcome on behalf of the city, but owing to a previous engagement sent a written statement expressing his regrets not being able to attend, and saying that it would be his pleasure to address the convention before it adjourned its sessions.

President Gunner's Annual Address.

President Byron Gunner, of New York, delivered his annual address, emphasizing in strong, well chosen words the militant objects for which the National Equal Rights Association stands, in course of which he said that the enemies of the race as well as some timid friends, urged that the National problem giving cause for frictional differences between the white and the black citizenry of this country should be settled in a peaceful manner, and that he objected to this because that "Peaceable Manner" meant that we must accept without protest or complaint whatever insult or injustice was imposed upon us as a race, while all other races were conceded the right to protest against injustice.

He referred to how, when the League had a committee headed by Editor W. Monroe Trotter, wait upon President Wilson protesting against the segregation of Colored in Federal employment, and the President urged upon them to exercise Christian meekness in addressing him with their complaint, they took occasion to remind the President how lacking in Christly principle was his attitude toward Negroes who were not only citizens and men, but had helped to elect him President of the Nation.

Mrs. Dunbar Speaks.

The accomplished and versatile Mrs. Paul Lawrence Dunbar delivered an address, ably championing the cause of women in civic and political endeavor. She presented much fact and logic, evidencing a knowledge of politics and public affairs greater than that possessed by many men. She declared for increasing agitation and earnest voting.

Hon John E. Milholland, of New York, with eloquence and philosophic logic enthused the audience to constant applause as he argued from a biblical standpoint how all injustice is overtaken by Divine retribution as seen in the Civil War following African slavery in this country, and how the Belgian people now torn and driven—whereas that Government not long ago oppressed and tortured the African Congo natives, cutting off their hands and otherwise maiming them in punishment for failing to perform an allotted task of gathering rubber gum. The master of ceremonies Monday night was Dr. Wm. A. Sinclair.

The local committee in charge were: Rev. W. Spencer Carpenter, chairman; Rev. Henry Y. Arnett, vice-chairman; William A. Sinclair, M. D., secretary.—American Journal.

Officers Elected.

The following officers were elected:
President, Rev. Byron Gunner, New York.
Rec. Sec., Dr. J. L. Johnson, Ohio.
Asst. Rec. Sec., Maurice W. Spencer, Del.
Cor. Sec., Wm. Monroe Trotter, Mass.
Treasurer, Thomas Walker, D. of C.
Financial Sec., Dr. Wm. A. Sinclair, Penn.
Nat'l. Organizer, Rev. R. C. Ransom, New York.
Asst. Organizer, Rev. J. E. Churchman, New Jersey.
Chaplain, Rev. E. Geo. Biddle, Conn.

Vice-Presidents.

Vice-Presidents: Rev. M. N. Thornton, Mass.; William D. Brigham, Mass.; Francis Warren, Mich.; W. Ashby Hawkins, Maryland; Rev. E. W. Moore, Penn.; Geo. W. Ellis, Ill.; Rev. W. F. Graham, Penn.; Rev. W. Spencer Carpenter, Penn.

Executive Committee.

Rev. H. Y. Arnett, Penn.; W. P. Dabney, Ohio; E. M. Hewlett, D. C.; E. T. Morris, Mass.; Dr. H. E. Young, Maryland; J. Q. Adams, Minn.; Mrs. Ida B. Wells Barnett, Ill.; Rev. Walter E. Gay, Conn.; Rev. C. L. Miller, R. I.; John Mitchell, Jr., Va.; Charles Pitman, Mo.; Mrs. Emma B. Brown, Ind.; I. F. Bradley, Kansas; Rev. J. L. Davis, N. H.; Dr. O. M. Waller, New York; Dr. W. A. Sinclair, Penn.; M. W. Spencer, Del.; Dr. W. T. Merchant, Ky.; G. G. Ross, Col.; J. S. Lowe, Ark.; J. D. Canady, Ore.; Prof. A. S. Hill, Tenn.

Committee on Nomination of Officers.

E. T. Morris, Mass., chairman; M. W. Spencer, Del.; Rev. M. W. Thornton, Mass.

Next Meeting—Name Changed.

The next annual meeting of the league is to be held in Ohio next August.

The name of the organization was changed to National Equal Rights League, the word "Independent" being taken out.

The last day of the Convention was devoted to a jubilee observance of the Semi-Centennial of the 13th Amendment.

One hundred and twenty-five enrolled delegates were present from all over the country.

A Philadelphia branch of the league was organized with Rev. H. Y. Arnett as temporary President.

Additional Resolutions.

The league, in addition to the address to the country, passed resolutions deprecating the seizure of Hayti, which it contrasted with the Mexican policy, and voted to send a delegation to remonstrate to the United States Senate. Other resolutions condemned President Wilson for his endorsement of the segregation of Colored government clerks, appealed to the public to oppose plays slandering the Colored race and misrepresenting Reconstruction and praising the fight made by Colored citizens of Boston and Philadelphia, thanking all other individuals and organizations working for the same cause such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, marking the Supreme Court decision against the Grandfather Clause Constitutions and urging Colored men in the south to register, congratulating the Colored citizens who carried the Oklahoma and Maryland Grandfather Clause cases and Jim Crow car case to the United States Supreme Court and endorsing the delegation of the league in its refusal to accept President Wilson's defense of segregation.

PROGRAM FOR MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 13.

Music, Prayer, Rev. S. E. Mason, D. D., of Rochester, N. Y., Music; Welcome Address, To Allen A. M. E. Church, Rev. W. Spencer Carpenter; Welcome Address, to Philadelphia, Hon. W. Clinton Rodgers; Annual Address, Pres. Byron Gunner of New York; Solo, Mrs. W. Spencer Carpenter; Address, "The Birth of a Nation," Rev. Dr. Mathew Anderson; Address, "Woman in the Battle of Equal Rights," Mrs. Paul Lawrence Dunbar; Address, "Fifty Years Afterward," Hon. John E. Milholland; Offering to Cause; Benediction.

Music under direction of Mrs. W. Spencer Carpenter. Pianist, Mrs. M. Louise Augusta. Public Meetings at 2.30 and 8 P. M. Morning Sessions for Business. Local Committee: Rev. W. Spencer Carpenter, Chairman; Rev. Henry Y. Arnett, Vice-Chairman; William A. Sinclair, M. D., Secretary.

PROGRAM FOR TUESDAY EVENING, DEC. 14.

Music, Prayer, by Rev. R. Murray, of Potsdam, Penn., Music; Address, Rev. H. Y. Arnett, D. D., Presiding; Address, Mr. Maurice W. Spencer, Delaware; Report of Anti-Segregation Delegation, W. Monroe Trotter, Boston; Music; Address, Pres. Wm. F. Graham, D. D.; Address, Judge E. M. Hewlett, Washington; Address, Attorney Thomas Walker, Washington; Address, Rev. W. Montrose Thornton, D. D., Boston; Offering to Cause; Benediction.

PROGRAM FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 15.

Jubilee Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Adoption of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of United States.

Music, Prayer, by Rev. W. F. Graham, D. D., Music; Introductory Remarks, President Byron Gunner; Address, W. Ashby Hawkins, Baltimore; Address, Rev. J. E. Churchman, New Jersey; Address, Mrs. W. O. Taylor, Boston; Song, Selected, Mrs. Flora L. Makel; Address, Rev. Bishop W. Johnson, D. D., Washington; Address, Dr. J. Max Barber; Address, Rev. R. C. Ransom, D. D., New York; Music; Offering to Cause; Benediction.

ADDRESS OF M. W. SPENCER.

Mr. Spencer said in part: Here the Colored American stands; interwoven into the life and blood of the American people, menacing their peace and progress more than ten million strong. Here he stands; within his sable hands he bears the implements of toil, upon his sable face he wears the marks of intelligence and character, following the various professions and engages in all lines of business, within his heart, he bears no ill will to the hand that forged the chain that enslaved him, nor the wild and senseless prejudice that blinds its sight to every evidence of his progress, and all the record of his devotion to the best interests of every community in which he elects to reside; here he stands; with a history for patriotism that was written in the crimson tide that flowed from the body of Crispus Attucks in Revolutionary times, and curled itself through every war waged by the American people, until it wrote of his daring and love of country, amidst the howling, dying and smoking battlefields of El Caney and San Juan Hill—and then carried his life in his hands along with his Suedo-white brother in the Philippines, to attest to the world, though hated and oppressed at home, crushed and bleeding in the land of his birth, yet he died fighting for the flag that protects every man the Colored man who gave his life.

Amid all the industry and toil of the Colored people we see husbands and fathers brutally shot, burned at the stake, roasted alive, tortured and murdered in a way that would make the untutored and uncivilized savage who has never heard of humanity, stand still and shudde rat a barbarianism that sinks beneath that of the blackest heathenism that has ever scarred and

(over)

KAPPA ALPHA.

The Bee 1/8/16.

National Negro Greek Letter College Society Ends Convention—Fifth Annual Meeting of Grand Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Largely Attended.

Iowa City, Ia., Jan. 1, 1916.—The fifth annual meeting of the Grand Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity held at Gammus Chapter University of Iowa, December 29-31, ended last night with a Formal Prom at Redman's Auditorium.

The annual meeting was largely attended by delegates and friends. The Grand meeting was opened formally on December 29, at 9 a. m., in Close Hall Auditorium by Bro. E. W. Diggs of Indiana University, Grand Polemarch of Kappa Alpha Psi. Among the many speakers was Pres. E. McBride of the University of Iowa, who addressed the Grand Body. His subject was "The Fraternity and the University." The morning opening ended at 12 m. Monday 29th, 2 p. m. was set aside for speaking and many distinguished graduate members of the organization brought excellent thoughts to the under-graduate members.

Kappa Alpha Psi concert was given on the evening of December 29. At this splendid renditions were given by members.

December 30th began the business session and all of this precious day was used in perfecting the workings of the Grand Fraternity of Kappa Alpha Psi.

8 p. m., on December 30th occurred the annual banquet at which firm resolutions and toasts were expressed by both members and friends.

December 31 the unfinished business was taken up and after 4 hours of serious reflections, the business session ended.

At 2 p. m. on December 31 the visiting members were provided with special conveyances and made a tour of the historic old Iowa city and her important institutions.

At 8 p. m. was held the annual Prom which was largely attended by the elite of Chicago, Evanston, Des Moines and other nearby cities.

The Grand Chapter meeting closed on December 31 after a successful session. The next Grand Chapter meeting will be at Wilberforce University, Wilberforce, Ohio, December 29, 30, 31, 1916.

St. Louis Republic

SEP 4

Negro Mothers' Convention Ends.

The annual convention of the National Congress of Mothers and Parents-Teachers' Association, a negro organization, ended last night at the Central Baptist Church, Washington and Ewing avenues. Delegates from many sections of the United States were in attendance. Mrs. Josephine Hall of Doyle, Tex., is president. Mrs. Booker T. Washington, wife of the negro educator, is honorary president.

damned the face of the earth.

Even Under Federal Government.

Is that all we have to complain of, I wish I could answer yes. But if you will visit the various government buildings in our National Capital you will find segregation and discrimination n various forms, and a few months ago, when a few of us called upon the Head of ths nation to protest against such humiliating and degrading conditions existing in the Federal Departments He placed an administrative seal of approval by assuring us that it was not humiliating—or degrading—but that such conditions were for the best interests of the Negro employee and if the delegation before him would go and tell our race so, they would beliece it, calling upon a race of free and equal citizens to consent to their own public degradation and consider it a benevolence.

Insult by Wilson not by Trotter.

This Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, was the only insult of that audience—made by the chief executive himself to the intelligence and self-respect of the delegation before him and the ten millions of their race.

That noble self-sacraficing-race leader who headed that delegation, The Honorable Wm. Monroe Trotter neither in word or action said or did anything that should insult any man. If for a president to be faced by a man of our race, who dared look him squarely in the eyes and tell him that the delegation before him was not composed of dependent wards asking for charity, but full-fledged American Citizens demanding equal rights under the constitution of the United States, is an insult, it is only in case the President is actuated by his Southern Sectional prejudices. In such case, the evident intellectual quality of the Colored citizen makes it not only offensive but insulting.

NEGRO ACADEMY HOLDS SESSIONS

The Afro American Ledger 1/3/13

Leaders in Scholarly Attainment Attend Meetings at the Nation's Capital

GRIMKE REELECTED PRESIDENT

Rev. J. R. L. Diggs, of Baltimore Delivers Masterful Address

Washington, Dec. 30—Scholarly papers on various phases of the history of the race, supplemented by informal discussions, marked the eighteenth annual session of the American Negro Academy, held at the Y. M. C. A., Monday and Tuesday.

The sessions were well attended, those present including men foremost in the scholarly attainments.

The annual address of the present, Archibald H Grimke, not only reviewed racial conditions, but conbatted the impression held in some quarters that the race was unduly criminal.

Rev. Dr. Walter H. Brooks, of this city, in an interesting paper on "The Evolution of the Negro Church," sketched the early efforts of the whites to thwart the religious life of the race. He read laws enacted by Georgia, Virginia and other States to stifle religous growth among the slaves. He mentioned the church at Augusta, Ga.; that at Williamsburg, Va., and St. Thomas P. E. Church, Philadelphia, each established during the eighteenth century, and traced the growth of Negro church bodies.

The colored Methodists of this country, said Daniel Murray, could claim title to Apostolic Succession, as Bishop White had laid hands upon Absalom Jones, and the latter ordained Bishop Richard Allen, founder of the A. M. E. Church.

Prof. C.G. Woodson read an essay detailing the early efforts of the race to obtain an education and the obstacles that were thrown in the way of those who sought an education in ante-bellum times.

Rev. J. R. L. Diggs, of Baltimore, read a paper on "The Esthetic Education of the Negro Through the Church." He said, in part:

"Through the Sunday schools the churches have been making a distinct and valuable contribution to the aesthetic education of the colored people The Christmas tree, the program, the concerts, the literary exercises of various classes given by the Sunday schools have all shared in the education of the race in the love of the beautiful.

The baleful caste spirit in America like the proverbial dog in the manager, has ever hindered the Negro in his upward struggles.

"Attendance at high class lyceums, theatres, concerts, and the like have been denied the race in the South, and whatever culture the black man has, came to him in spite of these harsh and unreasonable restrictions and largely through institutions established by the churches.

"There are, however, many thousands of colored people who never go into the homes of cultured white people, and hence they depend entirely upon the churches and other agencies for their aesthetic development. There are the educated and refined colored women and men who do not belong to the class of people who work out or are employed by the white people. They are themselves employers of help. This class is increasing and it is a matter of great importance to the race. Here we have among us then a class of people who are shut out from the many institutions of culture established by white men and because they have made some real progress in the world they are excluded by the nature of things from that observation enjoyed in the homes of the cultured rich by the middle class of colored people who serve as maids, butlers coachmen and chauffeurs, and are in touch with cultured white people.

"These colored people do not entirely lack the higher culture. They are very original in much of the arrangement of their homes, and they keep in touch with the latest from European centers of refinement. During the last half of a century they have produced a class of artists who have done much to supply the demand for aesthetic ministries and inculcate in the young a love for the beautiful. The representatives of the race have done splendid service, and today we are justly proud of them because of their contributions to the aesthetic education of 10,000,000 colored people.

"Our poets, sculptors, painters, and musicians have been, in most cases, products of church forces, and were given an introduction to the public through these agencies. Dunbar, Davis, Edmonia Lewis, Tanner, and Mrs. Hackley,—representative artists of a very high rank,—are all in some measure the gifts of the church, to the race, and through them and their splendid productions, stamped as they are with the imprint of immortality, the taste for and love of the beautiful have been developed and many noble ideals have been, to some extent, objectified on canvass, in song, in poetry, and in marble. The matchless orations of Douglass, the rugged epigrams of Sojourner Truth, the masterly utterances of Alexander Crummell, the classic contributions of Chestnut and Du Bois to the polite literature of the day, the argumentative productions of Kelly Miller cast in their strong mathematical form and sweeping onward over the prostrate forms of Thomas Dixon and John Temple Graves toward a moral quod erata demonstradum are all the products of the church life of the race."

Rev. Walter H. Brooks and Prof. George William Cook were among the new members elected. Revs. J. R. L. Diggs, L. Z. Johnson and Edward Williams were the Baltimoreans in attendance.

The following officers were re-elected: A. H. Grimke, president; Kelly Miller, vice president; John W. Cromwell, secretary, and Rev. A. J. Grimke, treasurer.

The National Fraternal Organiaztion

The Afro American Ledger 1/25/13

Things appear to be shaping themselves for the coming Fraternal Congress that is to be held in Cincinnati, O., this year. It will be remembered that during the recent session of the National Negro Press Association held in this city, the idea was endorsed by the newspaper men with the promise that throughout the jurisdiction of the Press Association the newspapers would give their hearty support to such a movement. It was clearly discussed and plainly understood among the newspaper men that their labors along this line would cease and their responsibility lifted when the clan representing the National Fraternal Organizations thruout the United States shall have gathered in the Ohio city for their first meeting. In promoting the Fraternal Congress, a committee consisting of W. E. King, of Dallas, Texas and Joseph L. Jones of Cincinnati, Ohio and Dr. E. A. Williams of Cincinnati, left no stone unturned in spreading the news and in soliciting the cooperation of the scores of secret society leaders throughout the United States. The newspaper men seem to be acting merely as promoters. It does not appear to be their purpose from what can be learned to take any part in the meeting as it was clearly shown from the number of letters sent out that it seems to be their only desire to foster such a movement, turning it over to the various lodges and societies so that a closer union might be centered between them. Already it is predicted that the outlook for a large outpouring during the month of August at Cincinnati will be the result. Dr. Williams and Gen. Jones who both reside in Cincinnati are already atwor k on the local entertainment. Among the fraternities throughout the country which will be represented from the various states will be Od Fellows, the Masonics, Knights of Pythias, United Brotherhood of Friendship, Sons and Daughters of Abraham, Benevolents, Mosaic Templars and in fact scores of others whose names could not be learned but who have written their acceptance to the committee fostering the movement.

R. R. MEN ORGANIZE AT NASHVILLE, TENN.

The Chicago Defender 1/25/13

(Special to Chicago Defender)

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 29.—The National Railway Employes' convention met here last week and took the initiative step in the perfection of this organization. There were representatives from seven states present. The following temporary officers were elected: Mr. Marcus Edwards, temporary chairman; Wm. Laws, temporary secretary. R. J. Hollaway of Chicago, Ill., motioned that a committee be appointed to draft a resolution to effect a permanent organization, the committee to report at the next meeting, which is to be held in Chicago, Aug. 17th and 18th. The novelty of the convention was the association held in a building owned by the race and citizens of every walk of life in with the local committee to make the visitors' stay pleasant. There was a banquet and 340 persons present. A public meeting was held at St. John's A. M. E. church, and Hon. J. C. Napier and other prominent men delivered addresses.

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF PULLMAN PORTERS' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION.

After totaling the votes cast at the annual election of officers of the Pullman Porters' Benefit Association throughout the different districts it was found that the following were elected: Mr. J. W. Duncan, district agent, Chicago, south, and Mr. J. W. Carr, district agent, Chicago, west. Committeemen for two years, Messrs. Wells, Duncan, Carr and Fry. Committeemen for one year, Messrs. McDowell, Vinegar and Newsom. Mr. Fry, secretary.

Assessment No. 2 for deceased Bro. Earnest Bell, wife Carrie Bell, beneficiary, from Chicago district, west, $160.50; Chicago district, south, $72; St. Paul district, $26.50; Minneapolis district, $37.50; Pullman Company, 5 per cent, $15.15. Total, $138.65 received by widow.

National Organization – 1915

A GREAT BIG GATHERING

The National Railway Employees Protective Ass'n

The Nashville Globe 1/22/15

Nashville, the City of Opportunity, threw its gates open wide to the reception of the local employees of the railroad companies and delegates from various cities here to form a national association. A two days session was held at the local Railway Association building, Tenth avenue and Cedar street, Thursday and Friday, January 14th and 15th, and all who attended regretted that it could not be held every day.

The delegates began arriving Wednesday night, and a committee headed by Mr. Humphrey Bowling met at the depot and received the delegates upon arriving, and by Thursday morning a large number were assembled for the meeting. The first days session was begun with an automobile ride over the principal parts of the city, Roger Williams University, Fisk, Meharry and State Normal College were visited and the delegates were shown all over the buildings and grounds. Dinner was served in the new dining-room of the association, which was a gift to the ladies auxiliary department by President Humphrey Bowling.

At 2 o'clock the meeting was called to order by President Bowling. Prayer by the chaplain, Mr. J. P. Carney. Rev. Dr. Porter, pastor of St. John A. M. E. Church, delivered the welcome address, which made a strong impression upon the convention as Dr. Porter, being an ex-railroad man, gave incidents of his life as a railroad employe. Mr. Marcus Edwards, of Atlanta, was elected chairman of the convention; vice, Mr. Humphrey Bowling, of Nashville, Tenn., who declined the office; Mr. Wm. D. Laws, secretary of the local association, was reelected secretary, which news will be received with pleasure by his many friends who know that his ability and fine qualities of gentlemanship and Business are fast being recognized. Mr. R. J. Holloway, president of the Railway Employes, of Chicago, Ill., made a splendid talk on what would be the results of organization.

Second Day Session.

Business houses, banks, publishing houses and Board of Trade were visited; automobile trip out to Hubbard Hospital and various other places of interest.

The Railway Employes' Protective Association and the Ladies' Auxiliary want to extend thanks through the columns of the Globe to Rev. Preston Taylor, who so generously gave us the use of his two automobiles for the entertainment of our guests for this occasion. There were representatives from Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Gerogia, Tennessee, Missouri, etc.

Business was suspended in the second day session to allow Dr. Jasper Tappan Phillips to make one of the most enjoyable addresses of the day and he was given a rising vote of thanks.

On Friday night a banquet was held at St. John A. M. E. Church for the visiting delegates and local members and their friends, and the large auditorium of the church was filled to its capacity. Rev. Dr. Porter, pastor of St. John Church, offered the invocation and recited two master pieces from his own pen which were applauded vigorously. President Humphrey Bowling made his annual address and introduced the speaker of the evening, Hon. J. C. Napier, ex-register of the treasury, who delivered a strong and forceful address. Dr. Jasper Tappan Phillips, M. D., of the Y. M. C. A. Campaign fame, led the singing, assisted by Miss Mary Julia Wright, pianist, and the audience. He sang his favorite song, "Nashville." Mr. R. J. Holloway, president of the Chicago Association, responded in a most fitting manner. . Mr. Marvens Edwards, president of the Atlanta Association, made an excellent talk. Mr. A. N. Johnson was next introduced and he responded in a most befitting style and gave great praise to Mr. Humphrey Bowling for the splendid assembly gathered for the occasion. Dr. Jasper T. Phillips was called upon and he responded in his humorous way. Prof. Green, principal of Ashcraft Public School and a life-long friend and relative of President Bowling, and the Association spoke encouraging words to the convention for its success. The afconvention for its success. . The affair was pronounced by many to be the finest that Nashville ever witnessed, and too much credit cannot be given to the officers and the committee in charge. Mr. William D. Laws, secretary, was toastmaster of the banquet and too much praise cannot be given this sterling young man for his excellent handling of the affair and the Railway Employes' Protective Association and the Ladies' Department are to share in the glory for bringing to this city the great convention. Much credit is due Mr. G. T. Carter, chairman of the committee on arrangements, for the fine way in which the banquet was arranged.

MR. WILLIAM D. LAWS,
Secretary Local Association.

PROCLAMATION.

Christian Recorder 1-13-16

1. The generous response to the invitation of the Committee of the National Negro Press Association for the organization of a National Congress of Negro Fraternities has assured the Committee that the time is ripe for such organization.

It is expressly understood that when the delegates assemble for their first meeting that the N. N. P. A. has finished its work and the Fraternal Congress will adopt its own constitution, map out its own work and choose its own name.

The need of such organization is so obvious to all thinking fraternal men and women that argument here would be an adverse reflection upon their intelligence.

2. The Fraternal Congress will meet at Cincinnati, Ohio, February 7th and 8th, 1916. This meeting is called on these dates because the National Negro Press Association will meet at Nashville, Tenn., the same week (February 10-12), and this will give opportunity for delegates interested in both meetings to attend them conveniently.

3. Each Grand Lodge Organization in every state of whatever society is requested to send one delegate. Many of these delegates have already been elected.

4. Dr. E. E. Underwood, Frankfort, Ky.; Hon. R. B. McRary, Lexington, N. C., and Prof. E. H. McKissack, Holly Springs, Miss., are hereby designated as a committee to draw up a tentative constitution and by-laws for consideration.

5. All delegates and visitors will write Dr. E. A. Williams, P. O. Box 753, Cincinnati, Ohio, for assignment to homes.

6. The National Congress of Negro Fraternities will and ought to be the most potential organization of the race for self-help and notice to the country that the race has learned the lesson of the strength of union, and is now constantly in the watch tower scanning the horizon for the appearance of friends to encourage and enemies to balk.

Fraternally yours for the N. N. P. A.,

JOSEPH L. JONES.
N. E. Cor. Eighth & Plum, Cincinnati, Ohio.

DR. E. A. WILLIAMS.
P. O. Box 753, Cincinnati, Ohio.

W. E. KING.
383 Jackson Street, Dallas, Texas.

INTERSTATE BEST EVER

Lawrence a Royal Host to Literary Folk.

The Topeka Plaindealer 1/10/15

The Interstate Literary Association which convened at Lawrence on Dec. 28th, 29th and 30th, at the Baptist church, Ninth and Ohio streets, was by far the best and most enthusiastic meeting during its twenty-four years of existence.

This was the twenty-fourth annual session of the association. It has had a meeting every year and is one of the strongest literary organizations in the country, and embodies the literary genius of four states—Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Iowa.

The purpose of the association is to promote literary work among the race and it is succeeding admirably well, as three prgrams were successfully carried out each day.

Papers were read and discussed at every meeting. The best points of the papers were brought out and the construction and language used in the composition was discussed. The association is one of the best educated organizations among our people in the United States and it pro-

The Topeka Plaindealer 1/15/15

President—Dr. F. D. G. Harvey, Lawrence; First Vice Pres.—Mr. M. Wynne, St. Joseph, Mo.; 2nd Vice Pres.—Mr. B. Easter, Oswego; 3rd Vice Pres.—Mr. N. H. Jelty, Hutchinson; Recording Sec.—Miss Lois Wilson, Wichita; Asst. Recording Sec.—Miss Tracy Harvey, Eudora; Treas.—Prof. W. E. Gray, Atchison; Historian—Mrs S. Joe Brown, Des Moines, Ia.; Chaplain—Prof. A. Gregg, Quindaro; Corresponding Sec.—Mrs. E. M. Guy, Topeka.

Executipe Com.—W. W. Evans, Chairman, Hutchinson; Mr. Tilford Davis, Kansas City, Kas.; Miss Adah Upshaw, Topeka; Prof. G. E. Watson, Fort Scott; Mrs. T. W. Bell, Leavenworth.

PITTSBURG, KANSAS.

Rev. J. T. Elias preached an excellent sermon Sunday night. After services Mr. Jim Robins and Mrs' H. Ramey were united in marriage.

Mr. Sid Morgan passed away Jan. 2d. The funeral was held from the A. M. E. church.

Mrs. Lizzie Alexander gave a 4 o"clock dinner Jan. 3d. Those present: Miss Leota Fletcher, Mr. Turner Alexander, Miss Mable Cole, Mr. Herbet Alexander, Rev. A. J. Williams and wife. The dinner was served in courses. All enjoyed themselves to the highest.

Miss Nellie Goodwin is in the city visiting her parents and relatives.

The choir is progressing nicely under the leadership of Mrs. H. H. Hopkins.

Mr. Walter Hughes has accepted a position as chauffeur in Wichita.

THE NEGRO LAWYER.

By Perry Wilbon, Howard, President National Negro Bar Association.

The Negro lawyer of today is by no means the Negro lawyer of yesterday. In fact, he is no longer a Negro lawyer; but he is a lawyer practicing at the bar of this country.

There was a time when our name was the synonym for agitators and our forum was the street corners or indignation meetings. And as a rule our equipment for this special work was about as limited as our practice. And the client who trusted his liberty to the hands of the average attorney of color had as well don the prison garb in advance or prepare himself for the gallows.

Good citizenship was not attributed to us and the average white man regarded the colored attorney in the South as a firebrand in the community and he was to be shunned as would some great plague. And as a rule they were regarded as representing nothing, having nothing and deserving nothing.

But it is altogether different now. For we have practicing before the American bar today 3,604 well equipped, painstaking and conscientious attorneys of color, who are succeeding, deserving and esteemed.

They are no longer regarded, even in the South, as firebrands, but they are succeeding in winning their cases

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

before white juries regardless of the personnel or color of the litigants and are held in the highest esteem by the courts and others connected therewith.

They are no longer regarded as dangerous persons with whom to deal in business relations. But on the other hand they are representing the cream of business in the race, corporation counsel, promoters of business enterprises and enjoying the unlimited confidence of our most successful men. In fact, there are many reputable attorneys in various communities whose counsel in domestic matters is sought beyond that of the ministers.

In a great many instances we have attorneys of color who have been called upon to sit as special judges in cases in the very heart of the South and some who have been designated to serve as prosecuting attorneys pro tem and these have done the work with credit and commendation, notable among whom is the Hon. Scipio A. Jones, of Little Rock, Arkansas, who very recently served as special judge in a case in his home city where the litigants were of the white race, having been elected by the white attorneys to serve in this important place.

The National Negro Bar Association has been in operation for six years, having been organized in the city of Little Rock with the late, lamented Honorable Josiah T. Settle as its first president and since which time it has met at the same time and place as the National Negro Business League and much good has been accomplished.

Its present officers are: President, Perry W. Howard, Jackson, Miss.; vice-president, J. C. Napier, Nashville, Tenn.; secretary, William H. Harrison, Oklahoma City, Okla.; treasurer, James A. Cobb, Washington, D. C.; chairman of executive committee, Scipio A. Jones, Little Rock, Ark.

The Negro has made rapid strides in the last twenty years and is found in every movement that stands for substantial improvement and material progress. He is quietly, persistently and intelligently battling for the rights of his race first and his clients next. He is smiling at difficulties and overcoming obstacles and his slogan is, "Respectfully but positively."

The race is learning to appreciate him as a most trusted counselor who goes into his case with the interest of his client at heart.

Our schools are turning them out in large numbers who are well fortified for the battles that confront them and they are taking their place along by the side of the physician, as men who sacrifice but as men who deserve the best as a class.

PRESS ASSOCIATION ADJOURNS

Nashville Globe 2/18/16.

VISIT FISK, MEHARRY, ROGER WILLIAMS AND A. & I. STATE NORMAL

Chris. Perry Elected President --Ex-Pres. Chisum's Address --Auto Party--Ben J. Davis Tresurer.

After spending three days in the hardest kind of work, the newspaper men, making up the National Negro Press Associaation, adjourned sine die on Saturday night at nine o' clock, February 12th. The sessions of the Association were held in the conference rooms of the National Baptist Publishing Board, second floor, Administration Building, 523 2nd Avenue, North. The work accomplished, together with the plans submitted for future operation of the Association, consisted of a large number of things that will be of vital importance to the men of the craft throughout the United States. While the attendance was not what was expected, judging from the large number of acceptances that came into the secretary's office, the reason assigned at the opening of the meeting was on account of the tremendous high water along the Mississippi Valley.

The first day, Thursday, was taken up in executive session. The meeting was presided over by the chairman, Joseph L. Jones, of Cincinnati. A full report and a number of recommendations were made at this meeting which lasted well into the evening of Thursday. It was found that the Executive Committee had been careful to look into every phase of the Association's work, and on Friday morning when President Chisum called the meeting to order the committee had a list of recommendations and a report which was highly commendable. The president of the Association, who was optimistic and who has been during his term, dispensed with a formal annual address and the organization proceeded at once to its work. The Association from them on up to the close devoted its entire time to constructive work. its entire time to constructive work.

The standardization of advertising received perhaps more consideration than any other particular item of the many that came up throughout the sessions. It was agreed by the association members to further prosecute the standardization plan in order that the smaller papers that have hitherto been denied copy would be favored and thus become independent and self-supporting from the funds certain to be derived from the amount of space sold.

A standing committee consisting of W. E. King, Dallas Express, Dallas, Texas; Emmett J. Scott, Tuskegee Student, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; Henry A. Boyd, Nashville Globe, Nashville, Tenn.; and Jos. L. Jones, Fraternal Monitor, Cincinnati, O., was named.

Among the other matters to receive attention was the appointment of a Vigilance Committee, whose duties were thoroughly outlined, consisting of R. W. Thompson, Washington, D. C.; Charles Stewart, Chicago, and Miss Elizabeth Jones, Pittsburg, Pa.

The Committee on Code Service, consisting of H. A. Boyd, Jos. L. Jones and Melvin J. Chisum, was retained and requested to bring in a report by the time the Executive Committee meets in Kansas City.

The Committee on clubbing, consisting of W. H. Stewart, Louisville, Ky.; J. Blaine Boyd and J. A. Sharp, Nashville, was appointed and asked to make feasible plans whereby papers might co-operate one with another in increasing their circulation.

At noon of the second day, after appointing the various committees and a report of the Credentials Commitee. which showed there were one hundred twenty-six publications holding membership in the organization, recess was taken, and Mr. Walls, a moving picture representative, made a photograph, after which invitations to visit the various educational institutions of Nashville were accepted. (Insert visit to schools)

In the afternoon of Friday the various committees made their reports. One of the most encouraging reports made during the session was the one coming from the Committee on Fraternal Congress, which committee consisted of E. A. Williams and Jos. L. Jones, of Cincinnati, O., and W. E. King, of Dallas, Texas. The committee reported they had through the influence of the National Negro Press Association, fostered and caused to be organized a Fraternal Congress wherein seventy-two acceptances representing the leading fraternal organizations of the United States were represented and that they did meet in Cincinnati, O., and a Fraternal Congress had really been launched. The report of the committee was received and it was discharged after being thanked for the work done.

The Association pledge, which was reported for adoption by the Executive Committee, was endorsed with instructions that it become a part of the application blank for all members desiring to join the association.

The following officers were elected on Friday: Chris J. Perry, Philadelphia, Pa., president; W. L. Porter, Knoxville, Tenn., first vice president; H. M. Gilliean, Denison, Tex., second vice president; B. J. Davis, Atlanta, Ga., treasurer; Henry A. Boyd, Nashville, Tenn., corresponding secetary; Rev. J. A. Hamlett, Jackson, Tenn., recording secretary; W. R. Toliver, Nashville, Tenn., assistant recording reording secretary; E. A. Williams, Cincinnati, O., auditor Jos. L. Jones, Cincinnati, O., chairman Executive Committee; R. W. Thompson, John H. Murphy, Baltimore, Md., W. H. Sttewart Louisville, Melvin J. Chisum, Oklahoma, Advisory Board.

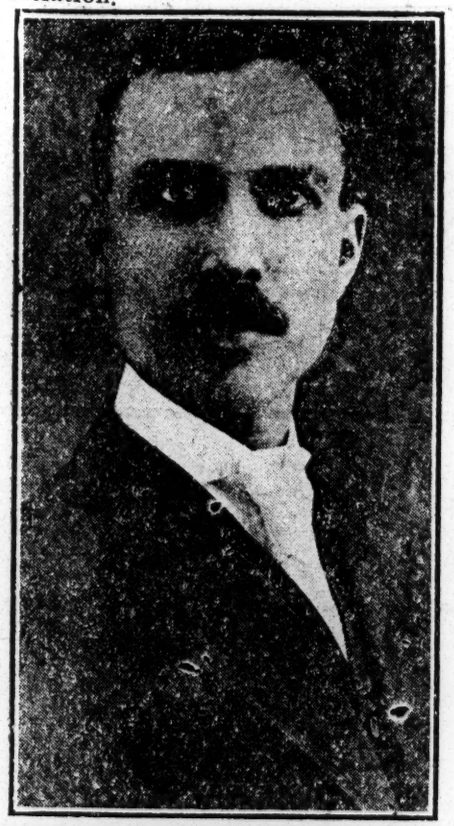
Saturday was practically an all-day grind. During the early morning hours after the assembly of the newspaper men and after reading and adopting the journal, representatives from advertising firms were heard at length. They talked buying and selling space until practically every man present was thoroughly conversant with many of the knotty problems that the large newspaper men and well known space buyers were conversant with.

The auditor at this session made a splendid report in which he presented with his O. K. the accounts of the Association.

The special Committee on Grievances to take up railroad matters reported through its chairman, Dr. J. T. Wilson. The report was exhaustive and plans were put on by the newspaperm en whereby they might better the conditions of travel for the members of the race to which they belong. The Association will take up with the leading railroad officials throughout the United States the matter of improved accommodations. The president was added to this committee.

The Association endorsed the idea of a school of Negro journalism or rather the establishment of a chair of journalism in several of the large universities throughout the United States. It condemned false journalism and went squarely upon record as favoring such news items and reports as could be verified from the most authentic source. It declared that the Reciprocal News Service should be more thoroughly in opera tion, and that the Inner Telegraph Circle would be developed on a larger scale for the incoming years. A request in the form of an order on the Association's record is that a bound volume of the publications of the members of the Association, bearing the name of the publication and the number of the volume on the outside, be placed in the office of the Corresponding Secretary as a permanent exhibit. The Booker Washington Memorial Fund came in for its share of endorsement. The new constitutional provision whereby Nashville becomes a regular central meeting place and fixing the annual sessions at February of each year, or rather in mid-winter, was upheld. One of the last and perhaps most important things accomplished by the Association was the compilation of the circulation of the members of the organization showing one million copies issued weekly. A standing committee to increase the membership was also appointed, consisting of the Corresponding Secretary and chairman of the Executive Committee. Many other things were taken up but the most touching was when the Association came to a close by singing "God be with you till we meet again," and the fervent prayer offered by Dr. Hamlet, of Jackson, Tenn.

CHRIS J. PERRY,
Philadelphia, Pa.,
President National Negro Press Asociation.



PERRY WILBON HOWARD.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

National Organization – 1915

MRS. BALDWIN RESIGNS FROM URBAN LEAGUE

Philanthropist Compelled to Give Up Duties Because of Ill Health

KEENLY REGRETS ACTION

Mrs. Baldwin Believes that Negro Problem Is Also the White Man's Problem and Thinks Races Should Cooperate.

Mrs. Ruth Standish Baldwin, known throughout the country as a stanch friend of the Negro, and who has devoted her time and contributed large sums of money to aid the race in its progress for betterment, has tendered her resignation as chairman of the Executive Board of the National League on Urban Conditions Among Negroes as a member of the board and also as chairman of the Committee on Education and Extension.

In her letter of resignation tendered to L. Hollingsworth Wood, secretary of the National League on Urban Conditions Among Negroes, Mrs. Baldwin asks to be relieved of her duties at once. She has been compelled to withdraw from the league in an official capacity because of ill health.

Mrs. Baldwin is of the opinion that the colored man's problem is also the white man's problem, and in her letter of resignation declares that where the white and colored people band together to seek better conditions among Negroes in various localities conditions are ameliorated for everybody, and that those engaged in the work help in some measure toward a truer realization of the ideals of sound community living in our great republic.

Mrs. Baldwin's letter follows:

Washington, Conn.,
June 1, 1915.

Mr. L. Hollingsworth Wood,
Secretary N. L. U. C. N.,
2303 Seventh Avenue,
New York City.

My Dear Mr. Wood:

In accordance with our conversation when I was last in New York, I beg to hand you, for transmission the Executive Board of the N. L. U. C. N. at its next meeting, my resignation as chairman of the board and of the league, as a member of the board and as chairman of the Committee on Education and Extension, the same to take effect immediately.

The reasons which impel me to this action now are so familiar to you as to need no repetition here.

It is with keen regret that I withdraw from the Executive Board, and therefore from intimate association with work of deep interest and growing usefulness. I am also sorry to interrupt personal associations which have been most congenial and inspiring.

As to the chairmanship, you are aware that I only accepted the position a year and a half ago because no more suitable person was then available, and I should resign it now with livelier regret had I not chafted during all this time under the knowledge that the League sorely needed a far different leadership from that which I could give.

It needs leadership at once aggressive and tactful, from one who can and will represent it on all suitable public occasions and who is in a position to seize and develop opportunities for its growth both in New York and elsewhere, and whose wide knowledge of other efforts which are being made from various angles to better the condition of colored people in all parts of the country will enable him to guide the work of the league wisely and so far as possible, in cooperation with such other efforts, whether their emphasis be on the economic, educational, religious or

RAILROAD MEN HOLD FIRST CONVENTION.

The first national convention of railway employes will be held in Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 14 and 15, 1915. President Bowling of the Railway Employees' Association and members have graciously offered to entertain the visiting delegates and their wives free of any expense. The following named persons have been invited and are representative of the various fields: E. O. Barnhill, Kansas City, Mo.; S. Wright. St. Louis, Mo.; J. Courtney, Indianapolis, Ind.; R. Fowler, Cincinnati, Ohio; O. Long, Birmingham, Ala.; E. Collins, Atlanta, Ga.; T. Tule, Richmond, Va.; P. T. Sparks, Louisville, Ky.; J. B. Lofton, Columbus, Ohio; Pullman Porters' Athletic League, New York, New York. R. J. Holloway, president of the Illinois delegation, will arrive on the scene, heading his party, and it was learned that they may take the entire Eighth Regiment Band of 75 pieces to furnish music for the occasion.

American Negro Academy Elects Officers.

The American Negro Academy, after a highly successful session at the Y. M. C. A., 12th street, elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, A. H. Grimke; vice-presidents, Kelley Miller, L. Z. Johnson and Rev. Matthew Anderson; recording secretary, Arthur U. Craig; corresponding secretary, J. W. Cromwell; treasurer, Rev. F. J. Grimke; executive committee, Kelly Miller, J. E. Moorland, F. J. Grimke, A. U. Craig, F. H. M. Murray, L. M. Hershaw and J. W. Cromwell. The organization embraces some of the most notable scholars and scientists of the Negro race and meets annually in this city during the Xmas holidays for a study of the big problems of the hour and to mingle socially.

Some of the most profitable addresses of the session included "The Sex Question and Race Segregation," A. H. Grimke; "The Message of the St. Domingo Negro to the Negro Race," Dr. T. G. Steward, Wilberforce University, Ohio; "Negro Citizenship of the Negro Prior to the Civil War Historically Considered," L. M. Hershaw; "American Negro Bibliography of the Year," J. W. Cromwell; "The Economic Contribution of the Negro to America," Arthur A. Schomburg; and "The Constitutional Status of the Negro from 1860 to 1870," Prof. William Pickens, dean of Morgan College, Baltimore. The Academy is nineteen years of age.

College Fraternities Organize.

Bloomington, Ind.—E. W. Diggs has just returned from the East, where he established two new chapters of Kappa Alpha Psi. On December 4 the Epsilon Chapter was established at Lincoln University, Pennsylvania. On Monday night, December 6 the Zeta Chapter was established at Ohio State University. With the addition of these two chapters Kappa Alpha Psi now takes foremost rank as an organization of Negro college men, having chapters at the University of Indiana, the University of Illinois, the University of Iowa, Wilberforce University, Lincoln University and Ohio State University.

The fourth annual meeting of the Grand Chapter will be held with the Gamma Chapter, at the University of Iowa, during the Christmas holidays, December 29, 30 and 31.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the largest and oldest Negro intercollegiate fraternity, will hold its annual convention at the Young Men's Christian Association building in Pittsburgh on December 27, 28 and 29.

motes better education as very few other organizations can.

The Interstate closed Wednesday night and this being contest night, was the best of the session and deep interest was shown by the great crowd that assembled to witness the finest and best literary program ever staged in Lawrence or the West.

The guests all voted thanks to the people of Lawrence for the way they entertained the visitors and delegates. The management of the care of the guests was in the hands of Dr. F. D. G. Harvey and he handled the matter in a creditable way. All of the committees worked hard to make the meeting a success, and they have just cause to feel proud of their labor.

Fifty dollars in prizes were given away. The prize for the best original music went to Mr. A. L. Countell of Lawrence. The prize was $10.

The prize for original poetry went to Miss Myrtle Brown, of Western University. This prize was $3.

The prize for declamation was won by Miss Lenore Jordan of Lawrence. The prize for declamation was $3.

The oratory prize was won by Mr. Frederick Jackson of Western University. The prize was $10.

Mrs. Edythe Motin Smith, of Topeka, won the second prize in oratory.

The next meeting of the Association will be held in Hutchinson in December, 1915.

Following is the list of officers elected:

He is a Christian young
success be his.

Mr. and Mrs. Walker visited
daughter a few days last week, Mrs.
G. Taylor.

Mrs. Stanley and Mrs. Neal Pierce are numbered among the sick.

Mrs. Julia Fletcher has returned to Lawrence where she has a position as nurse. Her friends wish her success.

Mrs. Cora Alexander served a 3 o'clock dinner to Rev. J. T. Elias and wife, Mrs. Julia Fletcher, Mrs. Ester Bell, Mr. Baker, Marie Heath, Mr. and Mrs. Starkey, Mr. Stanley, Mr. Heath and family. All enjoyed the many good things to eat.

ABILENE, KANSAS.

Mrs. Grace Perrin returned to her home Cincinnati, Ohio, Wednesday. She was accompanied by Miss Roselle Patterson and Miss Hattie Bellas, as far as Manhattan.

Rev. C. P. Morrow went to Manhattan Wednesday and returned Saturday.

Misses Helen Harrison, Lena Smith and Mr. William Harrison went to Salina Saturday and returned Monday.

Little Honey Smith is able to be out again.

Mr. Douglas Simpson is on the sick list.

Mr. Robt. Warder and Jeff. Moore returned from Kansas City, Friday.

Mr. C. Brown of Salina was a guest of the Harrison family Saturday.

Mr. J. Moore departed for his home in Nicodemus, Sunday.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH